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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/593,182	09/18/2006	Yoshimasa Takagi	0445-0367PUS1	8801
2292 7590 09/13/2010 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER HALPERN, MARK	
			ART UNIT 1791	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 09/13/2010	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/593,182	Applicant(s) TAKAGI ET AL.	
	Examiner Mark Halpern	Art Unit 1791	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-17 and 19-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-10,19-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1) A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/6/2010 has been entered.

Claims 1, 6, 7 are amended, claims 5, 18 are cancelled, and new claims 20, 21 are offered for consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2) Claims 1-4, 6-10, 19-21, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuura (US 2004/0069429).

Claims 1, 7, 19: Tsuura discloses a process of making a pulp fiber molded article by papermaking steps. Pulp slurry is placed in a mold and force is applied to the pulp mass by pressing resulting in a molded article. The formed article has a sharp edge

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that has a thick walled part, as for example, shown in Figure 1 (entire document and Figures 1-4). Tsuura is silent on the mold having a recess of a depth from 1 to 20 mm, however, it would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, that the mold of Tsuura be of any shape including a shape having a recess of claimed depth depending on specific product requirements. The article mating face being adopted to be joined with a mating face of another fiber molded article is how the article is used and does not differentiate over the cited prior art.

Claim 2: Tsuura article design is providing an overhang and grooves for mating with another fiber molded article, as in piping section article of Figure 1.

Claim 3: Tsuura method discloses heat being applied to the mold to dry the formed article.

Claim 4: Tsuura method discloses the article being coated with a curing agent. The surface of the article is modified with a fluorine resin [0060].

Claim 6: Tsuura method discloses the article bend at mating area with another molded article, as shown in Figure 1.

Claims 8-10: Tsuura discloses using a papermaking mold in the method of making the article. The mold includes a pair of splits that are joined together wherein slurry is placed. The mold is designed to create a thick walled part as shown in the resulting product of Figure 1.

Claims 20-21: it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made that the mold of Tsuura be of any shape including a shape having a thick walled part at or near the edge depending on specific product requirements.

Response to Amendment

- 3) Claims 1-4, 6-10, 19 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Tsuura, is withdrawn in view of amended and cancelled claims.
- 4) Applicants' arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

- 5) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone no. is 571-272-1190.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Daniels can be reached on 571-272-2450. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

/Mark Halpern/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1791

<div><div>Serial Number</div><div></div></div>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/593,182	TAKAGI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark Halpern	1791	